THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.

Deacon & Peterson, Publishers,
NUMBER SIXTY-SIX SOUTH THIRD ST.

Two Dollars Per Annum, In Advance.
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A FAMILY NEWSPAPER: NEUTRAL IN POLITICS.

DEVOTED TO MORALITY, PURE LITERATURE, FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC NEWS, AGRICULTURE, THE COMMERCIAL INTEREST, SCIENCE, ART AND AMUSEMENT.

VOLUME XXXV. PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, AUGUST 11, 1855. WHOLE NO. 1776.

Choice Poetry.

THE MAIDEN'S SONG.

BY HELEN IRVING.

Original Novelet.

NANCY SELWYN;
Or,
Cloud with a Silver Lining.

WRITTEN UP 1 HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST,
BY MARY IRVING.

CHAPTER XIV.

Our Picture Gallery.

THE HORRORS OF WAR.

THE INTERIOR OF THE MAMELON ON THE 9TH OF JUNE.

SATURDAY
EVENING POST.
HENRY PETERSON, EDITOR.
PHILADELPHIA:
SATURDAY, AUGUST [illegible], 1855.

ALL THE READING MATTER OF THE POST ARE SET UP EXPRESSLY FOR IT, AND IT ALONE. IT IS NOT A MERE REPRINT OF A DAILY PAPER.

TERMS, &c.

The terms of the Post are $2, if paid in advance—$3, if not paid in advance. For $5, in advance, one copy is sent three years. We continue the following low terms to Clubs, to be sent in the city to one address, and in the country to one Post Office:

4 Copies,	$5,00	Per Annum.
8 " (and one to the getter up of the Club,)	10,00	"
13 " (and one to the getter up of the Club,)	15,00	"
20 " (and one to the getter up of the Club,)	20,00	"

Persons residing in British North America must remit twenty-five cents in addition to the subscription price, as we have to prepay the United States postage.

Additions to Clubs.—Any person having sent the money and names for a Club, may add new names to it at the same rate, provided the latter will allow their subscriptions to end at the same time those of the main list do. We will willingly supply the back numbers if we have them. Our object is to have all the subscriptions in each Club end at the same time, and thus prevent confusion.

The Money for Clubs must always be sent in advance. When the sum is large, a draft should be procured, if possible—the cost of which may be deducted from the amount.

Post-Masters or others sending for Clubs, would confer a favor by having them sent to one address, when they can do so conveniently.

The papers to Clubs are invariably stopped at the expiration of the period for which they have subscribed.

A New Arrangement.—Our subscribers will take notice that we now have no collecting agents, out of this State. They will therefore please remit to us direct.

All persons addressing letters to us should be careful to give the name of the State, as well as of the town, in which they live. *All letters must be post-paid.*

Subscribers wishing their paper changed, will please give the name of the Post-Office to be changed *from*, as well as the Post-Office they wish it hereafter sent to.

We trust that such of our old friends the Post-Masters, as do not feel inclined to take advantage of our liberal offers themselves, will show our Prospectus to other influential and responsible persons who will be willing to raise clubs, &c.

PROSPECTUS.

We may state, for the benefit of strangers who chance to see this number of the Post, that it is now in its thirty-fourth year, and has between 80,000 and 90,000 subscribers.

Upon the list of its contributors are enrolled the names of Mrs. Southworth, Grace Greenwood, Mrs. Denison, Mary Irving, Emma L. Sproat, Alice Carey, Metta Victoria Fuller, &c. *Mrs. Southworth and Grace Greenwood will write for no other weekly paper.*

Among the original productions already engaged for the present year, we may mention

The Opening Shadows, by Grace Greenwood,

The Mason's Will, by Grace Greenwood,

Nanny Selwyn; or, The Cloud with a Silver Lining, by Mary Irving.

Vivia; a Story of Life's Mystery, by Mrs. Southworth, author of "The Lost Heiress," &c., &c., &c.

In addition, of course, to the above, we shall endeavor to keep up our usual variety of Engravings, Original Sketches and Letters, Pictures of Life in our own and foreign lands, Choice Selections from all sources, Agricultural Articles, General News, Humorous Anecdotes, View of the Produce and Stock Markets, Bank Note List, Editorials, &c., &c. Our object being to give a Complete Record, as far as our limits will admit, of the Great World. For terms, &c., see head of column.

NOTICE.

Our clerks have been engaged for some time past in sending out bills to certain subscribers who are in arrears. We trust that those bills will be duly honored. In the universal rise of prices, newspapers, unfortunately, did not share. It therefore becomes doubly a duty for subscribers to "pay the printer" punctually what they owe him. Two dollars for a paper like the Post, is little enough, in all conscience. *Send on the money therefore*, dear reader, and sleep well at nights.

THE WILLIAMSON CASE.

Chief Justice Lewis, of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, has decided, upon application being made to him in the case of Passmore Williamson, that he cannot interfere with the decisions of the United States District Court in cases of alleged Contempt—no matter how illegal or how tyrannical those decisions may be. The Chief Justice says:

Mr. Justice Blackstone, in Brass Crosby's case, 3 Wilson, 188, declared that "all courts are uncontrolled in matters of contempt. The *sole adjudication of contempts, and the punishment thereof in any manner, belongs exclusively*, and *without interfering*, to *each respective Court*." * * It would occasion the utmost confusion if every Court of this State should have power to examine the commitments of the other Courts of the State for contempts; so that the judgment and commitment of each respective Court, *as to contempts, must be final and without control*. 3 Wilson, 204. * * * *Granting, for the purpose of argument*, (which I am far from intimating,) that *the District Judge made an improper use of the writ; that he erred in deciding that the prisoner refused to answer it—that he also erred in the construction of the answer which was given, and that he otherwise violated the rights of the prisoner; it is certainly not in my power to reverse his decision.*

According to the above decision, every Judge in Pennsylvania is as absolute and uncontrolled as the Autocrat of Russia himself. He may not only determine for himself what is contempt, but he may punish that alleged contempt "*in any manner*"—and no other Court has a right to interfere between him and his victim. If we understand the Chief Justice of Pennsylvania, he decides that even if Judge Kane had commanded the U. S. Marshal to take Passmore Williamson to prison, and, at the end of one week, if he did not purge himself of contempt, to erect a gallows and hang him as high as Haman intended to hang Mordecai—that neither the Supreme Court, nor any other Court or authority in Pennsylvania, could interpose to prevent the execution of that decree!

And this is pronounced Law, in the Free State of Pennsylvania, in the year of our Saviour 1855!

We have no doubt there are Law and Precedents enough for this decision—and we have little doubt also, that there are Law and Precedents quite sufficient for an opposite one. But even if there were not; is no new Precedent ever to be added to the long list which have so effectually aided the world in its gradual progress from Servitude to Freedom?

If it *be* Law that the liberty and lives of the citizens of Pennsylvania are at the mercy of any Federal Judge who chooses to play the tyrant, then will it be high honor to that Judge who shall first, from his Judicial Seat, assert and maintain that such Law is subversive of the very first principles of American Liberty.

Yes, Judge Lewis has let pass from his brow that wreath of fame which might have encircled it through all future history. His decision might have been one of those great Beacons of Freedom which shine bright and clear across the Ages. But he was not the Man for the Hour. And to the lips of another must be left the pronouncing of a decision which shall add one more security to the freedom of the citizen, one more bar against the tyranny of the Ruler.

For now that this imprisonment of Mr. Williamson has called attention to the defenceless condition of every member of the community, a feeling has been aroused that will never be calmed until "new guards have been raised for our future security." If the Judges of Pennsylvania will not raise a barrier for our protection—if they think so much more of old precedents and etiquette, than they do of the inalienable rights to liberty and life of the citizens of their native State—then must we elect a Legislature in the coming Autumn, that will be worthy of Pennsylvania—a Legislature that shall be prepared to maintain the Trial by Jury, and the rights of the humblest Pennsylvanian, if needful, by the whole authority and power of the State.

But, in the meantime, let a fair trial be given the other Judges whom we have elected to dispense even-handed justice, and maintain our rights. We shall at least ascertain by this process, if any have any Judge caring more for [illegible] the liberty of the citizen than the etiquette of his order, and who is prepared to allow Law to [illegible] if need be, and [illegible] the [illegible] in the [illegible] fountains of Republican Liberty.

AMERICAN PROGRESS.

The "United States Magazine" gives some valuable information derived from the Census Reports. Mr. De Bow, in his Compendium, states the area of the United States to be [illegible] square miles. The area of Russia in Europe, Austria, France, Great Britain, Prussia, Spain, Turkey, Sweden and Norway, and twenty-six other European States, is only 3,[illegible] square miles. The United States is equal in extent to the Roman Empire, or that of Alexander, neither of which is said to have exceeded 3,000,000 square miles. The following table shows the comparative distances between American and foreign cities:—

Pittsburg to Boston	[illegible]	Paris to Vienna	[illegible]
New York to Mobile	[illegible]	Paris to St. Petersburg	[illegible]
Philadelphia to Pensacola	[illegible]	St. Petersburg to Constantinople	[illegible]
Boston to Nashville	[illegible]	London to Constantinople	[illegible]
New York to Charleston	[illegible]	London to Vienna	[illegible]
Boston to Galveston, Texas	[illegible]	Stockholm to Madrid	[illegible]
New York to New Orleans	[illegible]	London to Rome	[illegible]
Boston to mouth of Mississippi	[illegible]	St. Petersburg to Thebes, Egypt	[illegible]

There were in the United States in 1850, 961,719 persons born in Ireland, 583,774 in Germany and Prussia, and 278,675 in England. The foreign born were about one-eighth as numerous as the native white population. The occupations of the male population, over ten years of age, including free colored persons, was ascertained to be, as nearly as possible:—

Farmers	[illegible]	Physicians	[illegible]
Laborers	[illegible]	Coopers	[illegible]
Carpenters	[illegible]	Students	[illegible]
Cordwainers	[illegible]	Cabinet and Chair-makers	[illegible]
Clerks	[illegible]	Bakers	[illegible]
Merchants	[illegible]	Clergymen	[illegible]
Black and White-smiths	[illegible]	Lawyers	[illegible]
Miners	[illegible]	Printers	[illegible]
Mariners	[illegible]	Editors	[illegible]
Masons and Plasterers	[illegible]	Authors	[illegible]

There are in the United States 38,183 churches, with an average capacity of accommodating 376 persons; total capacity, 14,[illegible],[illegible]. Church property is valued at $86,[illegible],[illegible]. The Methodists and Presbyterians have the largest amount of property; the Baptist and Episcopal churches are next. The Catholics, though they have but one-eleventh as many churches as the Methodists, have more than half as much church property.

The aggregate of persons over twenty years of age, unable to read and write, was 1,055,420. Of these, by far the larger proportion were of foreign birth, so that in nearly all the States, containing a noticeable proportion of foreign population, the illiterate of this class considerably outnumber those of the native. Thus, in New York, we find 30,670 native, and 68,052 foreign illiterate. In Massachusetts, 1,861 native, against 26,484 foreign, and so on.

Virginia contains the largest number of native illiterate—87,383; next is North Carolina, which numbers 80,083 of this class. New England greatly surpasses every other section of the Union in the efficiency of her school system, and only 1 in every 400 of her native inhabitants is unable to read and write. In the South and South-West the number is 1 in 12, in the Territories, 1 in 6, in the slave-holding States, 1 in 12, in the non-slave-holding 1 in 40, in the whole Union, 1 in about 22.

Newspapers first originated in Italy during the sixteenth century. The first in England appeared under Queen Elizabeth, at the time of the Spanish Armada. It was entitled the "English Mercurie," and printed at London by her Highness' printer, 1588. Periodical papers were first used during the civil wars of the Commonwealth. The earliest newspaper in North America was the "Boston News-Letter," issued April 24, 1704. In 1720, there were but seven newspapers in the American Colonies. In 1775, there were thirty-five, seven of which were in Massachusetts, and nine in Pennsylvania. The census of 1840 gave 1,631 as the number of newspapers and periodicals published in the United States. In 1850, the number was 2,526.

LANGUAGE AND THOUGHT

We observe, in the New York Quarterly for July, an article, evidently written by an American or Englishman, on the capabilities of the German language for the expression of thought, in comparison with other tongues:

The Germans are justly proud of the antiquity and the originality of their language. It was only with the new light, which followed the dark ages, that the French, the Italian, the Spanish, and the Portuguese sprung up from the ruins of the decaying Latin. Our own tongue owes its name and its very existence to a colony of German adventurers. But we know that long before the Romans had crossed the Alps, the German heroes were singing their war-songs in a language which some of their descendants at this day can understand. But the voice of Tradition and the voice of Philology agree in declaring that centuries before the rude Gothic was heard on the banks of the Elbe and the Rhine, it was spoken on the shores of the Caspian and the Aral seas.

It is, doubtless, a scion of that Asiatic tongue, from which all the European languages are supposed to be derived; but the time and the manner of its birth are alike unknown to history. Our earliest authentic accounts of it are received through the Romans. They tell us that the very sound of the words from the mouths of the giant chieftains struck terror into the hearts of the Roman soldiers. The earliest specimens of the written language which are extant, show that while it was harsh and sometimes uncouth, it contained many of those elements which distinguish the modern German for expressiveness, strength, and dignity.

The author considers the German language to be not inharmonious, peculiarly rich in verbs, and to be adapted to poetry, having what is called the painting power, the sound of words corresponding to the sense. The power of inversion is also a striking characteristic. The writer panegyrizes the German as a superior language to the French in expressing the profoundest and subtlest thoughts of the human mind, as being a more poetical language, and better suited for earnest historical discussion.

The eminent German philologist, Jacob Grimm, does not look upon his own language with as much favor as is displayed by the American reviewer. He decidedly prefers the English, and ascribes to it "a veritable power of expression, such as perhaps never stood at the command of any other language of men." He also remarks:

Its highly spiritual genius, and wonderfully happy development and condition have been the result of a surprisingly intimate union of the two noblest languages in modern Europe, the Teutonic and the Romance. It is well known in what relation these two stand to one another in the English tongue; the former supplying in far larger proportion the material groundwork, the latter the spiritual conceptions. In truth, the English language, which by no mere accident has produced and upborne the greatest and most predominant poet of modern times, as distinguished from the ancient classical poetry, (I can, of course, only mean Shakspeare,) may of all right be called a world-language; and like the English people, appears destined hereafter to prevail with a sway more extensive even than its present, over all the portions of the globe. For in wealth, good sense and closeness of structure, no other of the languages at this day spoken deserves to be compared with it—not even our German, which is torn, even as we are torn, and must first shake off many defects, before it can enter boldly into competition with the English.

Powder Mill Explosion at Wilmington.—The drying house at Mr. Garesche's powder works, Eden Park, in the vicinity of Wilmington, was blown up shortly before 8 o'clock, on the morning of the 3rd inst.

It contained about one and a-half tons of powder, and exploded with a terrible report, blowing the building to atoms, and killing three Frenchmen and a boy. The explosion of the drying house caused also the explosion immediately after of a powder mill about three hundred yards distant, containing about 1,400 lbs. of powder. By the second explosion the mill was utterly demolished, one man killed and four dangerously wounded.

Patrick Bushe was running from the mill, and was about thirty yards distant, when a lightning rod descended and struck him on the head, fracturing his skull in such a manner as to render his recovery doubtful.

Mr. Garesche thinks that the original explosion was caused by one of the Frenchmen who was addicted to smoking a pipe, and whom he had warned to leave or stop smoking—and thought he had done the latter.

A New Invasion of Ireland.—From an Address published in the *Citizen*, it appears that a new invasion of Ireland is contemplated. The editor of the Citizen regrets that he cannot reveal the name of the writer of the address, as it would make the hearts of his countrymen "leap with joy, and the tyrants beyond the Atlantic who drove them to seek a living and liberty in this refuge of the persecuted children of freedom in the Old World, would *gnash their teeth with rage, or tremble with apprehension at the doom they deserve.*" Oh, Slievegammon!

Later from the Sea-Serpent.—The sea-serpent was seen at Silver Lake, on the 28th ult., by Mr. Hall and his family. The monster followed the boat for some distance. A joint stock company has been formed to capture him alive, and the inhabitants are anxiously looking out for his snakeship.

BURIED TALENTS.

Many writers who have the capability of [illegible] a powerful [illegible] for good over [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Authors complain that they are unappreciated; when they will not, or cannot, understand the natures of those whom they wish to instruct or amuse.

It appears a matter of impossibility to some writers, of high attainments, brilliant imagination and great reasoning powers, to enlist the sympathies of the world at large, while others, of far less mental calibre, are much more extensively known. Many of the purest and noblest poets and scholars have had but a limited circle of readers who could thoroughly comprehend their utterances. Lord Byron and Moore have had troops of admirers among those who would not fancy the writings of Shelley, Coleridge, or Wordsworth. We think it was Goethe who, upon being asked the meaning of language which he had at some former period made use of, replied, "My friend, when I wrote, God and I understood the meaning of those lines; He may perhaps remember; for my part I have forgotten."

We hold that such language not only gave evidence of great egotism, but of a reckless disposition of the mental gifts conferred upon the Author for the benefit of all within the magic influence of his pen. It is the duty of all who give their attention to literary pursuits, to make the subjects chosen by them as clear to those interested as possible; and the higher the rank of the writer, the more responsibility attaches to him. It is as dishonest to give indistinct and cloudy thoughts or reasoning, when it can be avoided, as it would be in a mechanic to put out carelessly-finished work.

STATE RIGHTS.

In relation to the case of Col. Wheeler, the Charleston (S. C.) Standard says:

"These facts present no case of political importance. Col. Wheeler, though a Minister to Nicaragua, was but a man in respect to private rights, and as it is conceded that each State is sovereign in the power of determining subjects of property, he must submit, of course, to the losses which the laws of Pennsylvania have occasioned; and while we may question the courtesy, and in fact the morality, of enforcing the law under the circumstances, there is no ground upon which the General Government or the States can intervene for his protection."

The Fayetteville (N. C.) Observer also says, in reference to the same case:

"No man who carries his negroes into a free State is deserving of any sympathy in his loss. He invites it, with an assurance that his invitation will be accepted."

The whole case may be put in a nutshell. The laws of Pennsylvania do not recognize the institution of slavery, or the right of man to hold property in man. Col. Wheeler, in endeavoring to hold slaves in Pennsylvania, violated the law and insulted the dignity of the State. For, if he had a right to hold slaves in Pennsylvania one minute, he had a right to hold them one hour, one day, one year, always. And in this manner the institution of slavery might be re-established, in direct opposition to the law and will of the people of the State. We cannot imagine anything more completely subversive of State Rights.

Nationality and Religion.—One of our Israelitish friends thinks that as the newspapers in their reports of the British enlistment case, stated that Philip Kaufman was a "German Jew," they should be equally explicit at other trials, and give the religious belief of the offenders and witnesses. He asks, what would be thought of a report of proceedings in court like these: "Such an one, tried for robbery, with intent to murder, a Baptist; another, for brutally killing his wife, a Catholic; a third, for issuing fraudulent stock to an immense amount, thereby involving a great number of widows and orphans in inextricable ruin, an Episcopalian;" and so on.—*Boston Transcript.*

It is not at all probable that any slight was intended to the Jewish religion, by the reporters of the case above mentioned. The Jewish race are proud of their descent and name, and differ so much from all other sects in the community, that a writer, if restricted to either mentioning only nation or religion, would convey much more information, in speaking of the Hebrew race, by writing "He is a Jew," than "He is a German." Our Israelitish citizens occupy a position in our community equal perhaps to that of any other sect; but standing, as they do, isolated by their peculiar rites and customs from others, they must expect to feel the disadvantages as well as the advantages resulting from such a course. They are not the only sect who would be particularly mentioned in this manner. If a Quaker pursues any course of action not approved of by the people at large, his religion is mentioned with much more emphasis than his place of birth—and if he should be convicted of crime, there is little feeling of sympathy for him. The cause of this is easily enough explained. Any sect that has manners and customs of its own, and, to a certain extent, keeps within its own religious circle, will be looked upon with earnest and watchful scrutiny by those denominations not distinguishable from each other by outward and not to be mistaken signs. It is only natural that this should be the case—unless a special effort is made to prevent it. And our Israelitish friends, and others in the same predicament, should comfort themselves with the thought that the rule works both ways—praise as well as censure being awarded to them with more particularity than to people whose race and religion are not so evident.

Notice to Exchanges.—Our clerk informs us that he is about to subject our exchange list to its accustomed annual pruning. We trust that if any paper is cut off which is duly entitled to an exchange—by reason of a notice, &c.,—our attention will be called to the mistake, that it may at once be rectified. It will be entirely needless, in such a case, for any excitable brother of the quill—and scissors—to go into paroxysms of indignation. We will make all right—should any wrong unintentionally be done—just as quickly upon a calm statement of the facts, as if all Jupiter's thunderbolts were stolen, and hurled, tornado-like, against us.

Later from Mexico.—The Washington correspondent of the N. Y. Journal of Commerce, states that Santa Anna has appointed, as the Mexican Minister to the United States, his father-in-law, Senor Vidal, and that the wife of the Dictator is to accompany him. It is also rumored that a compromise is likely to be effected with the insurgents, by which Santa Anna will retire from the Presidency, and be succeeded by some less objectionable person. Affairs are in such an unsettled condition that no great reliance can be placed upon any reports at present.

Nitrate of Silver in Consumption.—The New York Academy of Medicine, at their June meeting, received the reports of the Committee on Dr. Green's paper on "Infection of the Bronchial Tubes." Three of the Committee stated "that the facts thus far developed, led them to regard the operation as one fraught with danger as well as difficulty." The minority report of Dr. Barker was in favor of direct medication of the lungs by the injection of caustic into the tubercular cavities. "Who shall decide when doctors disagree?"

Mortality of Philadelphia.—The Medical Examiner states that within the quarter of the year ending June 30, there were 2,374 deaths, averaging 26 per day. This number is ninety-five less than was returned for the same period in 1854. It is inferred, from the Health Reports, that the past six months have been more than usually healthy.

Portable Cider Mills.—We refer our readers to D. Landreth & Son's advertisement on the following page.

☞ Refuses to Treat.—It is said that the editor of the *Massachusetts Life Boat* is delighted to learn that the "Czar refuses to treat." The next steamer he hopes will bring the news of his having joined the temperance society.

☞ The best snuff in the world is a snuff of fresh air.

☞ Chinese.—The Chinese, in learning our language, experience insuperable difficulties in enunciating the letter *r*. They universally give it the sound of *l*. For instance a Chinese servant invited us to take some rice pudding in the following style:—Americum gentilum like lice ipudd'n? Gentilum take lice pudd'n, eh? We declined.

☞ A Tart Reply.—A young man visiting his mistress, met a rival who was somewhat advanced in years, and wishing to rally him, inquired how old he was. "I can't exactly tell," replied the other, "but this I can tell you, that an ass is older at twenty than a man is at sixty."

THE CROPS IN THE WEST.

FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.

Mr. Editor of the Post:—As, in consequence of the great failure of crops last year, the subject has become one of great interest throughout the country, I have concluded to give you some items in reference to the present prospect in this portion of country; and as I have lately made an excursion into Tennessee, also as regards the crops in that State. Last year we suffered terribly here, and came near making no crops at all, such was the drought! The result has been that we have had to import for our own consumption, large quantities of corn, flour, oats and hay, and had to pay "starvation prices" for them—instead of *exporting* these articles as heretofore. Another such year—and there were not wanting croakers to predict it—would have utterly ruined the country!

But the prospect has entirely changed. The wheat crop has been harvested, and saved in fine condition. Never, perhaps, has there been a better one raised in the country; and the quantity is as large again fully as usual. The new flour from it is coming in, and is of most excellent quality. Flour, from $11 and $12 per barrel, is rapidly coming down; and must soon be $8. In the adjoining counties, and in Tennessee, it is selling at this price; and wheat offering at 60 cents per bushel, and will probably be as low as 50 cents. The corn crop was never more promising. It has been remarkably well cultivated, is well stalked, and silking and tasseling, and getting into the roasting ear state; while the weather is as seasonable as could be desired. *Oats* are also equally as fine as wheat, and the crop very large, which is now generally harvested. The tobacco crop also looks very well, but is smaller than usual, in consequence of the large amount of grain raised, which will considerably enhance the price of the article. As to *fruits*, the trees of every kind, apple, peach, &c., are literally loaded down. The peach crop is the largest I ever recollect to have seen. *Vegetables* of all kinds, potatoes, cabbage, &c., are remarkably fine and flourishing, and the quantity unusually abundant. In short, we have every prospect of having one of the most abundant years ever known; and of again having

"Smiling plenty o'er the happy land."

As ever, your OLD FRIEND.

M'Cracken Co., Ky., July 16, 1855.

New Publications.

Ariel and Other Poems. By W. W. Forster. New York: [illegible] & Brother. For sale by T. B. Peterson, Philadelphia.

There are some pleasing, fanciful poems in this volume. The opening piece, "Ariel," is taken from that portion of the "Midsummer Night's Dream," in which Prospero gives freedom to his fairy servants. "Liana," a spirit loved by Ariel, has pined long in his absence; and with Oberon and Titania welcome him back to Fairy Land. "The Spirits," a Poem in Three Decanters, is a grotesque, humorous sketch; burlesquing the operations of the table-tippers and mediums. The following will give an idea of the author's power of versification:—

"There was an ancient grave philosopher,
Whose head was like the beaming moon ever
A wave-beat precipice on ocean's shore
Or some old spectral sycamore."

In word-mechanism we consider this piece equal to any of the "Ingoldsby Legends," and not at all deficient in original and odd ideas; but it lacks strength, and is purposeless except as a vehicle for bringing out queer and unconnected fancies. "Ye Ancient Mariner," is, of course, a parody on Coleridge; but not at all a close imitation of the original; and quite innocent of any plot, other than would be probable in a nightmare of two man power. It is disfigured, too, by unusual and uncouth lines, such as

"And she was yclept be simply, Bell"

Here is something better, from the same poem:—

"The bright blue blanket of the Sky
Is barred with purple, green and gilt,
While soft cerulean o'er us lay
The summer sky's far-stretching quilt."

The following, from "The Poet's Wake," we think well worth extracting:—

Bring all gentle bloom and buds
Whether of the mount or meads,
Silver lilies of the floods
Nodding 'mong the yellow reeds;
Bring the Bramble's bloom of snow,
And the spiked pinks of fire,
Which beside the fences grow,
Guarded by the thorny briar;
Bring the pansy, pranked with jet,
Flecked with white, and freaked with gold;
And the blue-eyed violet,
Bending to the mossy mould;
Bring the sun-flower's bright torch,
Fronting to the God of Day,
And from round the rustic porch
Gather morning-glories gay;
Bring the fox-gloves, they who fold
On their purple hearts their hands,
And the tulip cups of gold,
Streaked with flaming crimson bands;
Cut the mullen's slender rods,
Studded thick with golden beads,
And the lady-slipper's pods,
Bursting open with their seeds;
Fetch the honey-suckle's horn,
Nectar filled and yellow dyed,
And the tassles of the corn,
Waving in their plumy pride;—
Weave a garland in a ring,
Chaplet, wreath, and rosy chain,
Bid a troop of fairies sing,
Tripping o'er the greensward plain;
Let it be a sylvan mead,
Dappled thick with grove and copse,
Filled with winding paths, which lead
Where the cress-kissed fountain drops.

Many of the smaller pieces are original and well written. The book is illustrated with designs by Dallas.

A School of Life. By Anne Mary Howitt, Author of "An Art Student in Munich." Boston: Ticknor & Fields.

Our readers will, perhaps, remember our criticism upon the "Art Student in Munich," the first production of this young and gifted lady. The same faults—an over-enthusiasm and too copious use of adjectives of admiration and dislike, appear in the present volume, though in a less degree. The career of two young artists is described—one flying from an irksome position in his uncle's counting-house—the other, a country boy, kindly assisted to rise by the proprietor of the estate on which he lived. The ladies, Honoria and Agnes, act in a way peculiar to themselves. Honoria, to save unnecessary trouble, refuses her lover in advance—a singular thing in woman. This lover, John Wetherly, has a passion for three women in the course of the novel—an all-absorbing love for each. The last one he marries. Agnes is a philosopher, engaged on a great work on "The Universal Faith." She informs her lover, in a chance difficulty which occurs, "I will tear out my very heart and trample it beneath my feet, sooner than it shall swerve from the dictates of reason!" Her language and actions throughout are very strong and energetic, and not at all calm or Platonic. While we object to the portraitures of humanity in this work, we look with pleasure on the beautiful descriptions of scenery, and genuine appreciation of high art. The writer is very young, and evidently capable of attaining to a much higher position than her first crude efforts have obtained for her.

The Diamond Cross, and Other Tales. By Clara Moreton. Phila.: Willis P. Hazard.

A collection of agreeable stories, written plainly and purely; quite free from the morbid taste for dwelling upon scenes of misery and revelling in misdirected thought, and yet sufficiently impressive and serious.

"The Diamond Cross" conveys an excellent moral lesson. Carrie Merton, the heroine, is a good, true hearted girl; but, through mere thoughtless extravagance, causes trouble to herself and family. "The Beckertons" is a home story, and, to our mind, the best in the book. It portrays forcibly the evils caused by trifling with the feelings of children, and injudiciously meddling in the affairs of others. Mr. Beckerton, having become a widower, marries again. The bride is young, lovely, amiable in her disposition; but the children, still mourning for their lost mother, are prejudiced against the new comer by a malicious servant girl and a thoughtless relative. Lettie, Mr. Beckerton's daughter, flies from her home, and is only reclaimed by accident, *after suffering* severely from want and loneliness. All ends well and naturally. There are several other good stories—"Aunt Esther's Dowry," "Emma Dudley's Secret," "The Mother-in-Law," &c., &c. For pleasant reading and sound morality, we can recommend them to our readers' notice.

Glaucus; or, The Wonders of the Shore. By Charles Kingsley. Boston: Ticknor & Fields. For sale by T. B. Peterson, Philadelphia.

A little book intended to awaken an interest in the reader's mind for the study of natural history. Some very fine descriptions are given of seaside plants and shells.

We have also received—

Timboo and Fanny. New York: Harper & Brothers.

The Medical Examiner for August. Philadelphia: Lindsay & Blakiston.

The Half-Yearly Abstract of the Medical Sciences. Philadelphia: Lindsay & Blakiston.

[illegible]

Even looking upon marriage as a mere civil contract, perfectly business-like, and of not much more importance than any other partnership for mutual benefit, it would not be proper or just that it should be dissolved in the unceremonious and trifling manner advocated by many recent writers, and by none more strongly than the author of this volume. But looking upon it in its better and more sacred light, as a solemn covenant that should not be entered into without a full knowledge by both parties of the disposition and capabilities of each other, and an honest and honorable determination to keep the covenant, we deem it the most important safeguard both to national and private morality; and would frown down all efforts to displace it from its high position.

There may have been instances of wrongs inflicted on women full as heart-rending as those of Mary Lyndon—but their day is past, in most States; and will soon be over in all the civilized portions of our country.

It is strange how extremes meet. The "spiritual wife" system of Utah, where any number of women can be made the wives of one man, springs into a morbid existence in one section of the Union, while the equally offensive doctrine of "elective affinity" is struggling to spread its unhealthy sway in another.

"No true freedom," says the author, "can be assured to woman in any sect that makes marriage indissoluble." Why, it must be plain to all that woman's safety consists in that very indissolubility. The law applies with equal force to both—and ill-assorted unions are as frequently owing to the wife's errors as to those of the husband. Under the present law, the wife can compel her husband to support her, if he has any means of doing so, no matter what incompatibility of disposition may exist. He can make no disposition of his real estate without consulting her; and can be made to support her children by him, or in default of doing so, can be sent to prison. If the "elective affinity" doctrine were put in practice, the husband would be at liberty to leave his wife whenever interest or inclination might prompt him; and woman, being emphatically "the weaker vessel" in such a case, instead of being man's helpmate and equal, as she now is, would become a mere toy, to be thrown away at pleasure.

Harper's Magazine, for August. New York: Harper & Brothers.

A number profusely illustrated, and with a variety of good original and selected articles. "The Newcomes" is not yet finished, and, despite the high literary ability of its author, we are growing tired of it. The system of publishing in monthly numbers affords an opportunity for digression and amplification which is too often taken advantage of. Thackeray endeavors to put half-a-dozen books into one, which one becomes of necessity unwieldy, and anything but light reading. We do not wish to be considered as in any way denying that in this novel keen wit and a fine perception of character are to be met with; and that it is written in a much gentler and less fault-finding spirit than "Vanity Fair;" but we do not think it will be read with the same interest as that production. In "Vanity Fair," attention is engrossed by one prominent conception—Becky Sharp—and curiosity is kept on the stretch to see what finally will become of her. In "The Newcomes," although nearly all the characters are well delineated, and several really original samples of humanity are presented, no one peculiarly compels an audience from the reader, who consequently picks up the book, and after perusing a few pages, and praising it very highly, puts it down again, to be used the same way another time, and awaken the same remarks. There is none of that feverish anxiety displayed as to what will be coming next, which agitated thousands at the time of the publication in numbers of several of Dickens's novels—especially "The Old Curiosity Shop." We well remember the feeling of sorrow which affected not us alone, but all true, appreciative novel-readers at the death of Little Nell. Nothing of this kind could possibly happen in perusing Thackeray's [illegible]

SATURDAY
EVENING POST.
PHILADELPHIA:
SATURDAY, AUGUST 11, 1855.

General News.

FOREIGN NEWS.

By the Asia we have Liverpool dates to the 21st ult.

The general prospects of the war, at home and abroad, were not very encouraging. Partial successes before Sebastopol have, however, revived the drooping spirit of the army, although the small reported losses of the Allies show that the successes were not of importance.

Pelissier, whose character suffered much after the repulse of the 18th of June, was regaining confidence, and from the strength of the French works, now close advanced towards the Malakoff, there is a probability of its early capture.

A despatch from Gen. Simpson is published, giving an account of the embarkation of the body of Lord Raglan for England. Pelissier placed a garland of *immortelles* on the coffin, and the French troops formed an avenue of men, six miles long, from the camp to the sea.

The following are the latest despatches:—Under date of July 16th, 11, P. M., Gen. Pelissier telegraphs—"The enemy who had for some days endeavored in vain to stop our left approaches in front of the Malakoff Tower, attempted last night to drive us back, but they were repulsed by the first division of the second corps. Three times the Russians threw themselves upon our trenches, with their usual shouting, but after each attempt they were compelled to retreat by the steady fire and calm attitude of our soldiers, leaving behind them many of their slain."

July 17th.—Gen. Simpson telegraphs nothing of importance has occurred. The army is in good health.

[illegible]

Sound dues, especially in the present crisis, when Denmark's neighbors are endeavoring to draw her into a war,—and further, that the abolition of Sound dues would be a loss of many thousand dollars to Denmark, and a saving of not more than two hundred dollars annually to the shipping of the United States.

Denmark, therefore, considers it impossible, on the short notice, to comply, and believes that other nations will regard America's demands unfavorably.

RUSSIA.—A Vienna letter, in the Cologne Gazette, reports that marked differences have arisen between the Czar and his brother Constantine, and that the journey of the Prince of Prussia to Petersburg is for the purpose of acting as mediator.

The Paris correspondent of the Times, writing on Sunday evening, says:

"Private letters from St. Petersburg, dated the 7th inst., mention that Prince Gortschakoff has written to his Government, to say that, up to the 30th ult., he had received the greater part of his reinforcements, and that he expected the rest the first days of July. He is said to express the utmost confidence in the success of his efforts to defend Sebastopol. The same letter mentions that Gen. Mouravieff, who is considered by the Russians as one of their best, if not their best General, and who directs the operations on Kars, has from 60,000 to 70,000 excellent troops under his orders, and that owing to the disorganized state of the Turks, he anticipates a complete triumph. At the same time it is thought that the object is a diversion rather than invasion, with a view of forcing the Ottomans to withdraw a portion of their force from the Crimea, and to intercept the trade carried on in Asiatic Turkey.

THE ARMY IN THE FIELD.—The Sardinian and Turkish forces have again withdrawn from the valley of Baidar to Balaklava. This may indicate either another modification in the plan of the campaign, or that field operations against the Russians have been abandoned. The report is confirmed that the Russians have received reinforcements. Gortschakoff has written to St. Petersburg acknowledging their arrival.

THE BLACK SEA.—Another sea expedition is fitting out, but the destination is unknown. It is supposed to be either against Odessa, or to relieve the Turks, hard pressed in Anatolia, and, perhaps, it may be for operations on the Danube. Four thousand Turks are in the Dobrudscha, where reinforcements of French and English are expected.

[illegible]

CALIFORNIA NEWS.

[illegible]

POLITICAL NEWS.

[illegible]

NEWS ITEMS.

[illegible]

Marriages.

[illegible]

Deaths.

[illegible]

The Markets.

PHILADELPHIA MARKETS.

[illegible]

THE STOCK MARKET.

[illegible]

Bank Note List.

[illegible]

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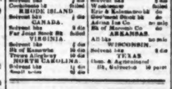

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[illegible]

Pictures of Life.

FARMER BURRIT AND HIS LIBRARY.

[illegible]

Selected Articles.

A POET IN RUSSIA.

[illegible]

DIFFERENT CLIMATES ALIKE COMFORTABLE.

[illegible]

City Scenes.

TOO LITERAL BY HALF.

Scene—A "cheap" chop-house, not a hundred miles from London.

Waiter—"Paysir? Yessir—Whateveyerhadsir?"

Matter-of-fact old gentleman (who has been reading the "Quarterly," on "Food and Its Adulterations.")—"Had? why, let me see: I've had some horse-tail soup, spiced with red-lead and shop-sweepings: a plate of roast cow, and cabbage boiled with verdigris: a crust of plaster of Paris, baked with alum and bone-dust: half-a-pint of porter brewed from quassia and strychnine: and a cup of charred liver, arsenic, and other unknown ingredients."

[*Exit waiter for a straight-waistcoat and a stomach-pump.*]—*London Punch.*

A New Multiplication Table.—The National Intelligencer has the following new method of multiplication, which may be useful to calculators:

[illegible]

Wit and Humor.

REPORT OF A FISHY CONVENTION.

All the marine monsters, big fish and small scaly fry of the great deep, lately met in Convention to take into consideration the conduct of the ocean, and also of mankind in general. The Whale was elected President, and from his greatness might be termed the Prince of [illegible]

Miscellaneous.

[illegible]

TO MY WIFE [illegible]

[illegible]

Agricultural.

[illegible]

For Housekeepers.

[illegible]

The Olio.

[illegible]

The Riddler.

[illegible]

HISTORICAL ENIGMA.

[illegible]

MISCELLANEOUS ENIGMA.

[illegible]

CHARADE.

[illegible]

CHARADE.

[illegible]

PROBLEM.

[illegible]

PROBLEM.

[illegible]

CONUNDRUMS.

[illegible]

ANSWERS TO RIDDLES IN LAST.

[illegible]